

OFFICIAL DRAFT
MINUTES
of the
Quonochontaug Central Beach Fire District
Civic Improvement Committee Meeting
Saturday, May 30th, 2015

Members in Attendance: Bill Heep, George Gray, Len Kovacs, Tom Wildman

Not Attending: Peter Rettig, Neal Simon, Katherine Huntington

I. Call to Order: Bill Heep called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

II. Approval of Minutes:

A Motion was made to approve the minutes of the Civic Improvement Committee Meeting held on July 12th, 2014. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

III. Old/ New Business:

A. **Signage** - Board of Governors has granted approval to place a sign at the playground that reads – Playground Closes At Dusk - to inhibit people from congregating there at night. The Police Committee will make the Charlestown Police aware of the restricted use allowing CPD to ask people to leave if necessary.

B. **Walking Path** – Discussion was held about Sea Side Gardeners request to install a walking path into playground/park area using pre-cast concrete pavers. Question was raised about wheel chair accessibility. A quote was obtained for \$1800 to use crushed stone with metal edging as an entry from the road. Questions were raised as to the reality of widespread usage given the only feasible path location would be at the extreme southwest corner of the playground- Consensus was to leave access as is until further review.

C. **Bike Rack** - With many people riding bikes to the playground, a discussion was held about placing a bike rack in the area. Concerns were raised whether or not it is necessary, would it be used efficiently, where would it go? Comparisons were made to the bike racks adjacent to the block at beach...which often go unused. Consensus was to table the discussion.

C. **Street Lighting** – The upgrading of all street lights in QCBFD has been accomplished, at no charge, by National Grid. The process took approximately 10 months to complete. Contact will be made with East Beach to see if they would consider a similar project.

D. Trees & Shrubbery – There was further discussion concerning the tree/shrubbery trimming process and the responsibility of property owners to comply with regulations for fire apparatus to access the Fire District roads and for maintenance of roadway clearance and sightlines. The Motion approved at the 7/12/14 Committee meeting is being reviewed by F.D. Counsel to determine how compliance might be enforced assuming a resolution requiring property owner maintenance of roadsides is submitted and approved at the 2015 annual meeting.

E. Traffic Pattern – Request was presented to committee to opine on the idea of altering the traffic pattern during July and August entering and exiting the beach parking lot. Suggestion was made to have all exiting traffic follow straight out onto Surfside Avenue. It would alleviate the congestion of traffic caused by bikers and walkers who predominately use Oceanview. Discussion was held and the question raised, is there a current problem? Suggestion was raised to ask last year's block workers if they saw problems.

Consensus of discussion was the issue has not been studied adequately, it would be difficult to enforce and is not deemed to be a problem.

IV. A Motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 9:57 a.m. The Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Heep, Civil Improvement Committee

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